

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, LE

SUBJ: MARONITE LEAGUE PLANS CONCLAVE

1. FRANCOIS JABRE, MARONITE LEAGUE MEMBER, HAS GIVEN US TEXT OF WHAT HE SAID IS THE AGENDA AND A DISCUSSION PAPER FOR A "CONCLAVE" OF THE MARONITE LEAGUE TO TAKE PLACE IN JUNE AT SAYDIT AL BIR. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AGENDA AS FOLLOWS:

--THE PROBLEM OF THE CHRISTIANS IN LEBANON IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR TENDENCY TO EMIGRATE "AND THE ATTEMPT TO EXTERMINATE THEM."

--THE MOTIVES OF LEBANESE MOSLEMS, PALESTINIANS AND THE ARAB STATES IN LEBANON. DO THESE GROUPS HAVE A PLAN? DISCUSSION OF MEANS TO CONFRONT THE DANGER.

--STUDY OF THE "BARBARIC OPERATION AGAINST AYN AR-RUMMANEH, TAYYUNAH AND BADARO"; REASONS AND MOTIVES OF THIS "HORRIBLE ATTITUDE"; THE ROLE OF THE ADF--"IS THIS FORCE FIT TO MAINTAIN

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SECURITY IN LEBANON AFTER WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE?"; A PROTEST AND REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION TO THE "INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS"; A PROGRAM TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF AYN AR-RUMMANEH, TAYYUNAH AND BADARO.

--ELECTION OF A BODY TO IMPLEMENT THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONCLAVE.

2. JABRE'S AGENDA IS FOLLOWED BY A LENGTHY NARRATIVE DIS-
SERTATION. MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT DESCRIBES THE COURAGEOUS
RESISTANCE OF CHRISTIANS AGAINST THE FOREIGN ENEMIES, PARTI-
CULARLY THE PEOPLE OF AYN AR-RUMMANEH, WHICH HAD BECOME "THE
SYMBOL OF RESISTANCE AND SOLIDARITY." THE DOCUMENT SAYS THAT
THE LEBANESE "LEGAL AUTHORITIES" IN EFFECT VINDICATED THE
"BARBARIC" OPERATION OF THE ADF AGAINST AYN AR-RUMMANEH USING
A TRIFLING REASON -- THE PRESENCE OF UNDISCIPLINED ELEMENTS--
AS A PRETEXT.

3. THE DOCUMENT CLAIMS THAT THE MOSLEMS OF LEBANON ARE
DETERMINED TO DESTROY LEBANON'S SIGNIFICANCE "AND THEREAFTER
TO BURY THE CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN IT," AND CONCLUDES THAT
"IF THE MOSLEMS IN LEBANON DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE LEGITIMATE
REQUESTS OF THE CHRISTIANS, AND CONTINUED TO PERSECUTE THEM
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PALESTINIANS AND WITH THE SUPPORT
OF THE ARAB STATES, IT SHALL BECOME CLEAR THAT THEIR PLAN
IS FINAL AND UNNEGOTIABLE . . . THE CHRISTIANS IN ORDER TO
FACE THIS PLAN SHOULD COOPERATE WITH OTHER MINORITIES, AS THEY
DID IN THE PAST . . . FOR THIS PURPOSE WE DEEM IT ADVISABLE
TO FORM COMMITTEES TO CARE FOR THE PEOPLE, HELP THEM TO
RETURN TO THEIR HOUSES, SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO RESIST.
. . . AN ORGANIZATION SHOULD ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY
BY CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION ON THE SCENE, CONTACTING
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THAT DEFENDED HUMAN RIGHTS,
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FURNISH THEM WITH INFORMATION, STUDIES AND REPORTS, AND
REQUEST AID AND THEIR SUPPORT."

4. COMMENT: THE MARONITE LEAGUE CONTINUES ITS TRADITIONAL
ROLE ON THE RIGHT FRINGE OF THE LEBANESE FRONT. THE AGENDA
AND DISCUSSION DOCUMENT SUGGEST THAT THE FUTURE THRUST OF
MARONITE LEAGUE PROPAGANDA WILL BE DIRECTED AGAINST THE
SYRIAN ADF AND THE ALLEGED COMPLICITY OF THE LEBANESE GOVERN-
MENT OF ELIAS SARKIS IN ITS "BARBARITIES."

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